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Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 04357 291426Z

51
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 IO-14 SS-20

NSC-10 DRC-01 /126 W
---------- 114006
R 291353Z NOV 73
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8984
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PINS, SF
SUBJ: CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE OFFICERS FACE NEW CHARGES

REF: PRETORIA 4263

1. DR. C. F. BEYERS NAUDE, DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE (CI), PETER RANDALL, DIRECTOR OF STUDY PROJECT ON CHRISTIANITY IN AN APARTHEID SOCIETY (SPRO-CAS), AND REV. DANIE VAN ZYL, SPRO-CAS COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR, HAVE BEEN CHARGED UNDER SUPPRESSION OF COMMUNISM ACT FOR ALLEGEDLY PUBLISHING STATEMENTS OF BANNED NATIONAL UNION OF SOUTH AFRICAN STUDENTS (NUSAS) PRESIDENT PAUL PRETORIUS. THE THREE ARE CHARGED BOTH IN PERSONAL CAPACITIES AND AS DIRECTORS OF RAVEN PRESS, WHICH PUBLISHED "NUSAS DOSSIER" CONTAINING STATEMENTS BY PRETORIUS.

2. DOSSIER PUBLISHED PRIOR TO PRETORIUS' BANNING, SO CHARGE PRESUMABLY INVOLVES SALE OF UNCENSORED COPIES FOLLOWING BANNING. SPRO-CAS STAFFER TOLD EMBOFF TODAY THAT ACCUSED PLAN TO CLAIM REASONABLE EFFORTS WERE TAKEN TO DELETE PRETORIUS' STATEMENTS AND PREVENT SALE OF UNCENSORED COPIES AFTER BANNING
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PAGE 02 PRETOR 04357 291426Z

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Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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3. ACCUSED EXPECTED TO STAND TRIAL IN JANUARY. THEY FACE POSSIBLE JAIL SENTENCE UP TO THREE YEARS WITH NO OPTION OF FINE. RANDALL AND VAN ZYL ALSO FACE JANUARY TRIALS FOR REFUSAL TO TESTIFY BEFORE SCHLEBUSH COMMISSION (PRETORIA 4256). NAUDE HAS ALREADY BEEN CONVICTED FOR SIMILAR OFFENSE AND HAS LODGED APPEAL (PRETORIA 4191).

4. CONTRARY TO EARLIER EXPECTATIONS (PRETORIA 4337), MRS. ILONA KLEINSCHMIDT, FOLLOWING LOSS OF APPEAL, HAS STATED HER INTENTION TO SERVE 25-DAY JAIL SENTENCE RATHER THAN PAY R50 FINE IMPOSED FOR HER REFUSAL TO TESTIFY BEFORE SCHLEBUSCH COMMISSION. KLEINSCHMIDT WISHES TO BEGIN SERVING SENTENCE IMMEDIATELY AND REPORTEDLY WILL BE JAILED TODAY.

5. COMMENT: SPRO-CAS HAS ALREADY EXPENDED CONSIDERABLE EFFORT AND EXPENSE, ESTIMATED AT R10,000 IN THREE YEARS, TO EXPUNGE QUOTES OF PEOPLE RECENTLY BANNED. FOR INSTANCE, OCTOBER BANNING OF BENNIE KHOAPA, FORMER DIRECTOR OF SPRO-CAS SPONSORED BLACK COMMUNITY PROGRAM (DURBAN 0365), REQUIRED DELETIONS AND REMOVAL OF REPORTS BY HIM IN SEVEN PUBLICATIONS. SAG'S LATEST ACTION AGAINST CI AND ITS SPRO-CAS SUBSIDIARY PROVIDES YET FURTHER CONFIRMATION OF ITS CAMPAIGN TO STIFFLE DISSENT AND CRITICISM OF ITS POLICIES.
HURD

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